(b) if so, what is the ratio of agricultural population and population explosion in India; and

(c) the details of the methods and schemes which Government propose to adopt to equalise population growth and agricultural food production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K.C. LENKA): (a) and (b) The All India Foodgrains Production increased by 35.99 per cent from 1980-81 to 1990-91. The total population increased by 23.56 per cent from 1981 to 1991.

(c) For increasing the crop production the Government is implementing various schemes like Integrated Project for Rice Development (IPRD), Special Foodgrains Production Programme-Wheat (SFPP-Wheat), Special Foodgrains Production Programme-Maize & Millets, National Pulses Development Programme (NPDP), Special Foodgrains Production Programme-Pulses (SFPP-Pulses), etc.

Hazards of farming

1362. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that farming has become an increasingly hazardous occupation;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to use extension services and the media raise awareness amongst farmers on the danger of using agricultural implements and other agricultural inputs; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to reduce accidents in the farm sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K.C. LENKA): (a) and (b) The Government through several extension services, uses all forms of media—print (newspapers, periodicals, farm journals and magazines), electronic (radio & T.V.) and visual (film, exhibitions, fairs and demonstrations) to disseminate information amongst farmers on safe and proper use of farm equipments, pesticides and other agricultural inputs.

(c) (i) The Government of India have enacted the Dangerous Machines (Regulation) Act, 1983, with a view to securing the welfare of labour operating dangerous machines. The State Governments have been advised for enforcement of the Act. The scope of the Act, at present, is limited to power threshers.

(ii) The Registration Committee set up under the Insecticides Act, 1968, registers pesticides after evaluating their safety and efficacy.

(iii) Dissemination of information to raise awareness amongst farmers on proper and safe use of implements and other agricultural inputs, through extension services in the States, Farm Machinery Training & Testing Institutes and Programme of the India Council of Agricultural Research are expected to reduce accidents in the farm sector.

मदर डेयरी के सब्जी विक्रय केन्द्र

1363. **श्री सत्यप्रकाश मालवीय** : क्या कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार को इस बात की जानकारी है कि मदर डेयरी के सब्जी विक्रय केन्द्रों में बेची जा रही सब्जी आमतौर पर 10 से 15 दिन तक स्टोर करके रखे रहने के कारण सड़ी हुई होती है और संबंधित अधिकारी इस संबंध में की गयी किसी शिकायत पर कोई ध्यान नहीं देते हैं ।

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है; और

(ग) क्या सरकार उपभोक्ताओं के लिए एक पृथक शिकायत सेल गठित करने का विचार रखती है ?

कृषि मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री मुल्लापल्ली रामचन्द्रन) : (क) जी, नहीं ।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

(ग) जी, नहीं ।